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Applicant traverses the restriction requirement for the reasons stated below. Nevertheless, in order to be responsive to the Office Action, Applicant elects the invention of Group II, claims 17-23, for examination. Applicant reserves the right to pursue prosecution of non-elected claims in a later filed application claiming the benefit of priority of the above-identified application.

The restriction requirement is traversed with respect to the division of the claims of elected Group II from those of Group I. Applicant submits that, while the claims of Group II are patentably distinct from those of Group I, a thorough search of the claims of Group II likely will result in art relevant to the examination of the claims of Group I. Specifically, a search of methods that involve determining the number of adenosine (A) nucleotides in a poly(A) tract of a RIZ nucleic acid molecule in a tumor, as recited in the claims of Group II, is likely to include a search of methods that involve introducing a nucleic acid molecule encoding a RIZ1 polypeptide into a tumor, as recited in the claims of Group I, because both methods involve a RIZ nucleic acid molecule in the context of a tumor. In view of the common body of literature relevant to the claims of Groups I and II, Applicants assert that the Examiner would not be seriously burdened to search and examine the claims of Groups I and II together, and doing so would increase the efficiency of the search and examination process of this application.